



Town of Wareham, Massachusetts

2004 Annual Town Meeting Warrant APRIL 26, 2004

WARRANT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

APRIL 6, 2004

(ELECTION)

DESIGNATED POLL LOCATIONS

8:00 O'CLOCK A.M. TO 8:00 O'CLOCK P.M.

APRIL 26, 2004

(GENERAL BUSINESS)

WAREHAM HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

VIKING DRIVE

WAREHAM, MA 02571 7:00 O'CLOCK P.M.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

PLYMOUTH, §

TO EITHER OF THE CONSTABLES OF THE TOWN OF WAREHAM

GREETINGS:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the legal voters of the Town of Wareham qualified to vote in Town affairs to meet in **Precinct 1:** Wareham Town Hall, 54 Marion Road; **Precinct 2:** the Ethel B. Hammond Elementary School Highland Avenue, Onset; **Precinct 3:** the Minot Forest School, Minot Avenue, East Wareham; **Precinct 4:** the Redmen Hall, 758 Main Street, South Wareham; **Precinct 5:** the John W. Decas School, Main Street, South Wareham; and **Precinct 6:** the Wareham Lodge of Elks, 2855 Cranberry Highway, East Wareham on Tuesday, April 6, 2004 at 8:00 o'clock a.m. for the election of Town officers designated in the official ballot, to be adjourned until Monday, April 26, 2004 at 7:00 o'clock p.m. in the High School Auditorium, Viking Drive, Wareham, MA to act on the following articles:

ARTICLE 1

To choose the following officers: two (2) Selectmen for a term of three (3) years; Town Clerk for a term of (3) years; Town Moderator for a term of three (3) years; one (1) Assessor for a term of (3) years; one (1) School Committee member for a term of one (1) year; one (1) Housing Authority Member for a term of five (5) years; and one (1) Upper Cape School Committee Member for a term of three (3) years.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 2

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen and/or the Town Administrator to apply for, accept and enter into contracts from time to time for the expenditure of any funds allotted or otherwise available to Wareham by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or the U.S. Government under any State or Federal Grant program or activity,

or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 3

To see whether the Town will authorize its Town Treasurer/Collector to enter into a compensating balance agreement or agreements for fiscal year 2005 pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53F of the General Laws, or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen at the request of the Town Treasurer/Collector

ARTICLE 4

To act upon the reports of the Selectmen and the School Committee as required by statute and upon any other reports from officers and committees who consider it expedient to do so, or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 5

To see if the Town will vote to fix the salary and compensation of the following elective officers: Town Clerk, Town Moderator, and any other elective officers of the Town as provided by Chapter 41, Section 108 of the General Laws as amended and to raise and appropriate a sum of money therefore, or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 6

To see if the Town will vote to determine what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate, including appropriations from available funds, to defray charges and expenses of the Town, including debt and interest, and to provide for a Reserve Fund for the Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2004 and ending June 30, 2005, and as more particularly described in the report of the Wareham Finance Committee, or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 7

To see what sums the Town will vote to raise and appropriate as its share of the operating costs and as its share of the capital costs of the Upper Cape Cod Regional Vocational-Technical High School District for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005, or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Upper Cape Cod Regional Vocational-Technical School District

ARTICLE 8

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from the Sewer Betterment Retained Earnings Account, a sum of money from the Sewer Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings Account, and a sum of money from the wastewater enterprise revenue in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 53F-½ of the General Laws to defray the operating and capital expenses of the Water Pollution Control Enterprise Fund for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005, or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 9

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to the Emergency Medical Services salaries and wages account and a sum of money to the Emergency Medical Services general expense account, still further, to authorize a sum of money in estimated receipts of the Emergency Medical Services to be used to offset said appropriation in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 53E, or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 10

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from camp user fee receipts, donations and other receipts of Camp Lakota operated by the Recreation Department in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 53F-½ of the General Laws to defray the operating and capital expenses of Camp Lakota for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2004, and ending June 30, 2005, or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen at the request of the Town Administrator

ARTICLE 11

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53E-½ of the General Laws to authorize the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of recreation programs, supplies, equipment, contracted instructors and any related expenses, which fund shall be credited with receipts from all Recreation Department program user fees, proceeds of fund-raising activities and donations under the authority and direction of the Director of Recreation, acting with the approval of the Town Administrator and the Recreation Commission; such expenditures not to exceed \$120,000 expended in any one fiscal year; and further, that the unencumbered balance as of the close of fiscal year 2004 in the existing recreation revolving account be transferred to the revolving fund established for fiscal year 2005, or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen at the request of the Town Administrator

ARTICLE 12

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53E-½ of the General Laws to authorize the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of recycling programs, projects, supplies, equipment and any related expenses, which fund shall be credited with receipts from recycling programs and projects, proceeds of fund-raising activities and donations under the authority and direction of the Chairman of the Recycling Committee, acting with the approval of the Town Administrator; such expenditures not to exceed \$50,000; and further, that the unencumbered balance as of the close of fiscal year 2004 in the existing recycling revolving account be transferred to the revolving fund established for fiscal year 2005, or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen at the request of the Recycling Committee

ARTICLE 13

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53E-1/2 of Massachusetts General Laws to authorize the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of shellfish propagation programs and enhancement of shellfish resources within the Town of Wareham, which fund shall be credited with receipts from all commercial shellfish permit fees and twenty percent (20%) of all fees derived from the issuance of recreational (family) shellfish permits under the authority and direction of the Shellfish Constable and Town Administrator; with such expenditures not to exceed \$40,000.00 in any one fiscal year; further, that the unencumbered balance as of the close of fiscal year 2004 in the existing shellfish revolving account be transferred to the revolving fund established for fiscal year 2005, or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 14

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53E-½ of the General Laws to authorize the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of providing transportation to elderly and disabled citizens of the Town, which fund shall be credited with receipts from transportation proceeds, including donations, under the authority and direction of the senior director acting with the approval of the Town Administrator; such expenditures not to exceed \$170,000; and further, that the unencumbered balance as of the close of fiscal year 2004 in the existing transportation revolving account be transferred to the revolving fund established for fiscal year 2005, or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 15

To see if the Town will vote pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 53E-½ of the General Laws to authorize the use of a revolving fund for the purpose of providing maintenance and improvements to the Minot Forest, which fund shall be credited with receipts from forest management activities, fund-raising, and donations under the authority and direction of the Minot Forest Committee with such expenditures not to exceed \$8,500 in any one fiscal year, or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen at the request of the Minot Forest Committee

ARTICLE 16

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer a sum of money from available funds and appropriate funds and authorize borrowing subject to Chapter 44, Sections 7 or 8 of the General Laws, or any other enabling authority, for the purpose of capital improvement projects including replacement of vehicles and equipment and repairs and improvements to Town buildings, facilities and waterways, or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 17

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds the sum of \$333,548.48 in accordance with Chapter 246 of the Acts of 2002 under the provisions of Section 34(2)(a) of Chapter 90 of the General Laws, for the purpose of constructing, reconstructing and improving primary roads and all other eligible transportation enhancement projects, or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen at the request of the Municipal Maintenance Director

ARTICLE 18

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to accept from Dana Keyes and Elizabeth Gleason, Trustees of the Charles S. Gleason, Jr. 1986 Trust, or their successors and assigns, by gift, and upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine to be appropriate, a certain parcel of land in Wareham, for general municipal purposes, including for the purpose of sale or lease, which parcel is shown as Parcel 1036 on Assessors Map 110, consists of 9.5 acres, more or less, and described in a deed recorded with the Plymouth County Registry of Deeds in Book 19986, Page 1351 [, subject to an option to sell or lease the parcel to Young Men's Christian Association Southcoast, Inc.] or to take any other action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 19

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for special legislation in the form set forth below; provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes to the bill, unless the Board of Selectmen approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court. The Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to approve amendments that shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition:

An Act Authorizing the Town of Wareham to Issue 5 Additional Licenses for the Sale of All Alcoholic Beverages To Be Drunk on the Premises

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding section 17 of Chapter 138 of the General Laws, the licensing authority of the town of Wareham may issue 5 additional licenses for the sale of all alcoholic beverages to be drunk on the premises under Section 12 of said Chapter 138. The license shall be subject to all of said chapter 138 except said section 17.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 20

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate from available funds the amount of \$10,800 to be used for Wareham children being served by Cape Cod Child Development Program, Inc. (Head Start).

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 21

To see if the Town will vote to raise or appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$2,000 to contract with the New Bedford Women's Center for domestic violence intervention and prevention services to its residents.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 22

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town Bylaws, Division VIII, Article II, Rules and Regulations Relative to Animal Control in the Town of Wareham, Section 6; Licenses and Tags, Paragraph 6, to be consistent with the change in fees voted at the October 2003 Town Meeting, Article 10:

Change From:

The fees for licensing of dogs shall be:

\$7.00 for any neutered or spayed animal, upon submission of a certificate from a registered veterinarian
\$10.00 for any animal not spayed or neutered

Change To:

The fees for licensing of dogs shall be:

\$10.00 for any neutered or spayed animal, upon submission of a certificate from a registered veterinarian
\$13.00 for any animal not spayed or neutered

Any person Seventy (70) years of age or older, upon proof of age, shall be exempt from the annual fee for one dog, per household, per year.

The owner of a kennel license, age Seventy (70) years of age or older, shall be excluded from this exemption.

The exemption shall take effect on January 1, 2005

or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Town Clerk

ARTICLE 23

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Town Bylaws, Division VIII, Article II, Rules and Regulations Relative to Animal Control in the Town of Wareham, Section 9; Penalties for Failure and/or Tardiness to License: Paragraph 3, late fees, to reflect the change in fees voted at the October 2003 Town Meeting, Article 10, and late fees which were voted at the October 1999 Fall Town Meeting, Article 18 to allow consistency in the bylaws:

Change From:

Late fees for the licensing of dogs are as follows:

	<u>Non-altered</u>	<u>Altered</u>
April 1 st to May 31 st	\$20.00	\$17.00
June 1 st to July 31 st	\$30.00	\$27.00
August 1 st to December 31 st	\$50.00	\$50.00

Proof that a dog has been altered (spayed/neutered) must be submitted at the time of payment of the license fee. Certification from a licensed veterinarian is required.

Change To:

Late fees for the licensing of dogs are as follows:

	<u>Non-altered</u>	<u>Altered</u>
April 1 st to May 31 st	\$23.00	\$20.00
June 1 st to July 31 st	\$33.00	\$30.00
August 1 st to December 31 st	\$50.00	\$50.00

Proof that a dog has been altered (spayed/neutered) must be submitted at the time of payment of the license fee. Certification from a licensed veterinarian is required.

or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Town Clerk

ARTICLE 24

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate and transfer \$10,000 from the Wetlands Protection Act Filing Fees Reserved for Appropriation account to the Conservation Trust Fund to be used in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, s 8C, or to do or act in any manner relative thereto.

Inserted by the Conservation Commission

ARTICLE 25

To see if the Town will vote to hear and act on the report of the Community Preservation Committee on the Fiscal Year 2005 Community Preservation budget and to appropriate from the Community Preservation Fund a sum of money to meet the administrative expenses and all other necessary and proper expenses of the Community Preservation Committee for Fiscal Year 2005; and further to reserve for future appropriation amounts as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee: a sum of money for the acquisition, creation and preservation of open space excluding land for recreational use, a sum of money for acquisition, preservation, rehabilitation and restoration of historic resources, and a sum of money for the creation, preservation and support of community housing, or take any other action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen at the request of the Community Preservation Committee

ARTICLE 26

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain, or otherwise, for historic preservation purposes under the Community Preservation Program, the fee or other interests in land located at Elm Street in the Town of Wareham, Massachusetts shown as Assessors Map 132, Lots A1, containing 7.16 acres more or less, and Lot W2, containing .57 acres more or less, more fully described in a deed recorded in the Plymouth Registry of Deeds in Book 9104 Page 167; said land to be held, managed, and controlled by the Town and, provided further, that management of such property may be delegated to the Wareham Historical Commission, and/or the Wareham Economic and Community Development Corporation, a nonprofit organization; and as funding therefore to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, transfer from the Community Preservation Fund, and/or borrow a sum of money pursuant to G.L. c.44B or any other general or special law for said acquisition, and to authorize the treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen to issue any bonds or notes that may be necessary for that purpose. And further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey concurrently at the closing and in perpetuity a historic preservation restriction pursuant to G.L. c.184, §§ 31-33; or take any other action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen at the request of the Community Preservation Committee

ARTICLE 27

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain, or otherwise, for open space and historic preservation purposes under the Community Preservation Program the fee or other interests in land located at Sandwich, Minot and Indian Neck Roads in the Town of Wareham, Massachusetts shown as Assessors Map 44, Lots 1002, 1005 and 1006B, containing 101.3 acres more or less, and more fully described in a deed recorded in the Plymouth Registry of Deeds in Book 10086, Page 41, excluding a previously conveyed parcel recorded in Book 13656, Page 266; said land to be held, managed, and controlled by the Town and, provided further, that management of such property may be delegated to the Wareham Conservation Commission, and/or the Wareham Historical Commission, and/or the Minot Forest Commission, and/or to the Wareham Land Trust, Inc., a nonprofit organization; and as funding therefore to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, transfer from the Community Preservation Fund, and/or borrow a sum of money pursuant to G.L. c.44B or any other general or special law for said acquisition, and to authorize the treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen to issue any bonds or notes that may be necessary for that purpose. And further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey concurrently at the closing and in perpetuity a conservation restriction to the Wareham Land Trust, Inc., a non-profit corporation, and/or a historic restriction to the Wareham Historic Society, a non-profit corporation, pursuant to G.L. c.184, §§ 31-33; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen at the request of the Community Preservation Committee

ARTICLE 28

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift, eminent domain, or otherwise, for historic preservation purposes under the Community Preservation Program, the fee or other interests in land located at Minot Avenue in the Town of Wareham, Massachusetts shown as Assessors Map 43, Lot 1076, containing 1.4 acres more or less, more fully described in a deed recorded in the Plymouth Registry of Deeds in Book 5779 Page 13; said land to be held, managed, and controlled by the Town and, provided further, that management of such property may be delegated to the Wareham Historical Commission or to the Wareham Historical Society, a nonprofit organization; and as funding therefore to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, transfer from the Community Preservation Fund, and/or borrow a sum of money pursuant to G.L. c.44B or any other general or special law for said acquisition, and to authorize the treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen to issue any bonds or notes that may be necessary for that purpose. And further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey concurrently at the closing and in perpetuity to the Wareham Historical Society or another qualifying historic preservation organization a historic preservation restriction pursuant to G.L. c.184, §§ 31-33; or take any other action relative thereto.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen at the request of the Community Preservation Committee

ARTICLE 29

That a petition to the General Court, accompanied by a bill for a special law relating to the Town of Wareham to be filed with an attested copy of this order be, and hereby is, approved under Clause I of Section 8 of Article II, as amended, of the Articles of Amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to the end that legislation be adopted precisely as follows, except for clerical or editorial changes of form only:

PETITION FOR A SPECIAL ACT RE: THE SAFE PLACEMENT OF NEWBORNS AND INFANTS IN THE TOWN OF WAREHAM

Whereas, the General Court finds and declares that a serious public emergency exists with respect to the safety and health of newborns and infants in the Town of Wareham due to parents that abandon them; and

Whereas, unless parents of newborns or infants are not protected from prosecution for their abandonment of a newborn or infant then the incidents of newborns discarded into trash receptacles or abandoned in public places will continue to occur; and

Whereas, the serious public emergency should be met by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts immediately, with due regard for the rights and responsibilities of the Town of Wareham.

Therefore this act is declared to be in the public interest.

Section 1. Acceptance of Newborns and Infants Placed by Parents or Lawful Agents of Parents with Authorized Employees of Designated Facilities.

Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary and in order to promote the public good, the Massachusetts department of social services ("department") shall accept for placement into foster care any newborn or infant child seven (7) days of age or younger ("newborn or infant" or "child") that is voluntarily placed with a hospital emergency room licensed under general laws chapter 111, section 51 in the Town of Wareham ("designated facility"), or left at a police station in the Town of Wareham, or at a fire station in the Town of Wareham for transport to such hospital emergency room (by activating the EMS system) by a parent of a newborn or infant or by a legal agent of said parent. A voluntary placement under these provisions shall not constitute an automatic termination of parental rights or an abrogation of parental rights or responsibilities but shall, for purposes of authorizing the department to initiate a petition to terminate parental rights under general laws chapter 210, be presumed to be an abandonment of the newborn or infant that has been so placed. A hospital emergency room receiving a newborn or infant shall immediately notify the department of the placement of a newborn or infant ("notice"). Upon receiving a notice the department shall take physical custody of the newborn or infant immediately and shall initiate all actions authorized by law to achieve the safety and permanency of the newborn or infant in a manner that is consistent with the best interests of the child; provided however, that if the newborn or infant is in need of emergency or other medical care, the department shall not take immediate physical custody of the child until such care has been fully administered and completed to the hospital emergency room's satisfaction. The department shall develop and implement a protocol of communication and procedure to facilitate the placement of and provide for the custody and care of a newborn or infant. If a person claiming to be a parent or lawful agent of a parent of a newborn or infant left with a designated facility submits a request to the department for reunification with the newborn or infant, the department shall institute the procedures currently authorized by law to identify, contact, and investigate such person or agent in order to determine, pursuant to the applicable provisions of law, if reunification is in the best interests of the child, or if it is in the best interests of the child to terminate the parental rights of the parent. Each hospital emergency room in the Town of Wareham shall designate members of the emergency room staff authorized ("authorized employee") to take physical custody of a newborn or infant under these sections, and one (1) such nurse shall be on duty during regular business hours. Each hospital emergency room shall designate an area in the emergency room where physical custody of a newborn or infant may be taken. Each police station in the Town of Wareham and fire station in the Town of Wareham shall, to the greatest practical extent that does not interfere with the primary functions of the police station or fire station, shall be authorized to activate the EMS system for the purpose of transfer to the hospital emergency room on receipt of physical custody of a newborn or infant under these sections.

Authorized employees at the designated facility or the EMS system shall make every effort to solicit the following information from the parent or lawful agent who is placing the newborn or infant: (1) the name of the child, (2) the name and address of the parent placing the child, (3) name and address of the parent absent from the placement of the child for the purposes of notification and protecting the absent parent's constitutional rights with regard to parenting, (4) name and address of the person leaving the child, if not a parent, (5) the location of the child's birthplace, (6) the medical histories of the child and parents including, but not limited to, birth and medical records, if available, and (7) any other information that might reasonably assist the department or the courts of the Commonwealth in current and future determinations of the best interests of the child, including whether or not the parent plans to seek future custody of the child. The authorized employee receiving the newborn or infant shall encourage the parent or lawful agent of the parent to provide the requested information in order to ensure that the child's best interests are served, but the parent or lawful agent is not required to provide such information. The department and the designated facility shall maintain copies of forms and records, if any, collected or created as a result of placements made under these sections, and shall

adhere to all applicable laws, rules, and regulations regarding the confidentiality of such forms and records provided, however, that all information pertaining to the medical history of the newborn or lawful agent shall be forwarded by the designated facilities to the department in order to facilitate the safe and permanent placement of a child by the department. These authorized employees shall provide the parent or lawful agent with a numbered identification bracelet. The bracelet shall be used to link the parent to the child for identification purposes only and shall not be construed to authorize the person in possession of the bracelet to take custody of the child on demand. If parental rights have not been terminated, possession of a bracelet linking the parent or agent to a newborn or infant left with an authorized employee shall create a rebuttable presumption that the parent or lawful agent has standing to participate in a custody hearing for the child but shall not create a presumption of maternity, paternity or custody.

Envelopes containing the above information (pamphlet, medical history form, and identification bracelet) should be provided to all fire and police stations for distribution as needed.

Section 2. Placement of Newborns and Infants by Parents or Lawful Agents of Parents with Authorized Employees of Designated Facilities.

The act of leaving an unharmed newborn or infant with an authorized employee of a designated facility does not, by itself, constitute a basis for a finding of abuse or neglect of the child pursuant to the laws of the Commonwealth, nor does it, by itself, constitute a violation of criminal statutes for child abuse and neglect or for abandonment under General Laws Chapter 119, Section 39 when there is additional evidence that the person who left the child intended that the child be safe from physical injury or harm. If there is suspected child abuse or neglect that is not based solely on the newborn or infant having been left with an authorized employee of a designated facility in compliance with these sections, the personnel of the designated facilities who are mandated reporters under General Laws, Chapter 119, Section 51A must report the abuse or neglect.

Section 3. Information Program.

There shall be a public information program regarding the procedures stated in these sections including, but not limited to, the development of a pamphlet describing these aforesaid procedures, the rights and responsibilities of the parent(s) and extended family members, the legal consequences of placement of a newborn or infant into foster care, the relevant telephone numbers of the department or its agents and family preservation services.

Such a public information program shall be funded by grants and donations not limited to, but including those from the United States Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to the Promoting Safe and Stable Families Program.

Section 4. Harmonious Construction.

This act shall be construed harmoniously to the extent practicable with any other general or special law such that all such legislation effectively provides the greatest level of safety for newborns and infants and the greatest level of equity and fairness to parents and lawful agents.

Section 5. Severability.

If any provision of these sections or the application of such provision to any person or circumstance shall be held invalid, the validity of the remainder of these sections and the applicability of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

Section 6. Effective Date.

The provisions of these sections shall be effective immediately upon passage.

Inserted by the Board of Selectmen

ARTICLE 30

To see if the Town will vote to raise or appropriate or transfer from available funds, the sum of \$2000 to contract with South Shore Women's Center for domestic violence intervention and prevention services to its residents.

NOTE: This article has been reproduced exactly as presented, in accordance with the law.

Inserted by Barbara M. Fuyant, et al

ARTICLE 31

To see if the town will waive the annual dog license fee for residents who are seventy (70) years of age or older.

NOTE: This article has been reproduced exactly as presented, in accordance with the law.

Inserted by Leonard W. Brackett et al.

Given under our hands this 2nd day of March in the year 2004.

WAREHAM BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Cynthia K. Chamberlain
Cynthia K. Chamberlain, Chairman

Patrick G. Tropeano
Patrick G. Tropeano, Clerk

Mary Jane Pillsbury
Mary Jane Pillsbury

R. Renée Fernandes-Abbott
R. Renée Fernandes-Abbott

Bruce D. Sauvageau
Bruce D. Sauvageau

A True Copy

ATTEST:

Robert E. Short
Constable of Wareham

Date: March 5, 2004